सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों का निजीकरण

2807. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों का लगातार निजीकरण करती जा रही है अथवा उनके कार्य को ठेके पर दे रही है।

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इससे प्रभावित होने वाले मजदूरों की संख्या क्या है;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि कई रुग्ण एककों को बन्द करने का खर्च उन्हें पुनरूज्जीवित करने के खर्च से ज्यादा है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इसका कम्पनी-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखबीर सिंह बादल): (क) से (ग) सरकार की यह नीति है कि सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्यमों में गैर-महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में उचित उपाय करते हुए इक्विटी का उत्तरोत्तर विनिवेश किया जाए, ताकि कामगारों के हितों की रक्षा की जा सके।

(घ) और (ङ) इस प्रकार का कोई विशेष मामला सरकार के ध्यान में नहीं आया है।

Recession in capital goods sector

2808. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a substantial segment of Indian Industry particularly the capital goods sector has been in recession during April-December, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof as well as the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps if any being taken to improve the performance of the capital goods industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) The rate of industrial growth during April-December 1997 was 4.7%. The growth of the capital goods sector during April to December, 1997 was (−) 0.1% whereas basic goods, intermediate goods, consumer durables and consumer non-durables grew by 6.6%, 7.3% 8.0% and 2.1% respectively. The deceleration in industrial growth is perceived to be the cumulative effect of many macro factors which include subdued export growth, slowdown in investment and sluggishness in demand.

(c) A number of steps have been taken in the budget of 1998-99 to improve the industrial growth including in the capital goods sector. The steps include further delicensing to attract private investment; imposition of 4% special additional duty on imports; 35% increase in plan outlay on infrastructure during the current year to trigger industrial activity etc.

The new credit policy announced by the Government on 29th April, 1998 is expected to impart depth and maturity to the money market. The new credit policy is aimed at reducing the cost of funds. Financial intermediaries including the commercial banks and term lending institutions have reduced their prime lending rates by 50 to 100 basis points.

Cost of production of paper and newsprint

2809. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how the cost of production of paper and newsprint in India compare with cost of import of finished products;

(b) how far it is attributable to higher-levy of customs duty on import of raw material like pulp and wastepaper than on finished product; and

(c) the details of import duty on the raw material and on finished product along with the difference between the two?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Cost of production of paper and newsprint in India varies depending upon the type of raw material used. The cost of production